Chestnut Grove Community news

David Bryan took his Royal Ambassador Church Group to the Peaks of Otter Camp Monday for a week. Those attending were Scott and Tood Morris, David Price, Edward and Robert Tolbert.

Mr. and Mrs. Vernard C. Proffitt and Mrs. Ellen Beasley visited Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Proffitt and Mrs. C. D. Proffitt in Charlottesville and Mr. and Mrs. Hollis Proffitt in Earleysville.

H. Flood Harris of Green Bay spent a few days last week in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Johnny M. Harris.

Mr. and Mrs. Faron Holland of Newport News visited Mr. and Mrs. Roger Morris and family during the weekend. Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Haver and Bill were Sunday night visitors in the same home.

Tuesday visitors of Mr. and Mrs. Johnny M. Harris were Mrs. A. G. Waycaster, Shirley Waycaster, Mrs. Deborah Covington, all of Dillwyn; Mrs. Dianne Hunter of Cartersville.

Sunday visitors of Mrs. R. L. Harris in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Joe L. Harris were Mr. and Mrs. Neal Harris of Richmond.

Mr. and Mrs. W.T. Cook spent a part of last week with their daughter and son-in-law Mr. and Mrs. Robert Metcalfe, Jr. at Virginia Beach.

We are sorry Lewis Morgan had to return to the Southside Community Hospital in Farmville Sunday. We hope he will soon be able to return home.

Mr. and Mrs. Kline Hill and boys of Richmond spent several days here last week and enjoyed a cook-out with the Johnny Harris family Saturday night at their house.

Mrs. Ruby Morris returned home Friday after a ten days visit in Florida. While there she attended the wedding of her son Jimmy to Captain Dorothea De Kalb at the Homestead Air Force Base.

Billy Morris spent the weekend with his family in Richmond.

Monday visitors of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Senger were Mrs. and Mrs. Clarence Hicks of Richmond and Mrs. Bertha Jones and Mrs. Leo Rice, all of Crewe.

Happy birthday to Becky Morris on her ninth birthday. Sorry she is sick.

Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Crews of Portsmouth spent a few days last week with Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Morgan.

Saturday supper guests of Mr. and Mrs. K. M. Beasley, Jr., were Mr. and Mrs. V. C. Proffitt, and Mrs. Ellen Beasley. Mrs. Katherine Carson of Spout Spring spent the night Saturday and was also a Saturday supper guest.

Kathy Beasley spent Friday night with her grandmother, Mrs. Katherine Carson at Spout Spring.

Terry Harris of Norfolk Naval Base spent the weekend with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joe L. Harris.

Little Jennifer Morris of Farmville spent Saturday night with her Grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Aubrey N. Morris.

Mrs. Curtis Nester of Lynchburg was a Saturday visitor of Mr. and Mrs. Aubrey N. Morris.

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Black Label Beer — Regular Or Light Six 7 Oz. Cans — $1.39

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Large Iceberg Lettuce — 24 Count — Crisp, Fresh Head — 49¢

California Plums — Mix Or Match Black, Green, Or Red — 59¢ Lb.

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Specialties In Our DELICATESSEN

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Two Fried Chicken Thighs — 99¢

BIG VALUE — Van Camp Pork & Beans — 16 Oz. — 35¢

BIG VALUE — Gerber Baby Food — Strained Food 4¾ Oz. — 17¢

TIMES-VIRGINIAN

A LIVELY WEEKLY NEWSPAPER AT HISTORIC APPOMATTOX

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For social service

Coleman cited by Lukhard

Horace W. Coleman, Jr., received the Virginia Department of Social Services' "Commissioner's Award" from William L. Lukhard, commissioner of the department, in a ceremony Monday in Appomattox.

The presentation, which was attended by a large group of local, area and state dignitaries, was followed by a reception for Mr. Coleman and his family in the county's Department of Social Services office.

Mr. Coleman received a plaque and a mounted certificate citing his dedication and service to social services in Appomattox County and Central Virginia.

During the presentation, Lukhard noted that Mr. Coleman was receiving "the highest award" made by the Department of Social Services.

Nomination for the award came from citizens in the county's government, civic and religious sectors.

In a letter to Ray Goodwin, deputy commissioner of the Department of Social Services, members of the county's social services staff recounted Mr. Coleman's activities on behalf of social services.

In January of 1981, he initiated work on a long-term care plan for the elderly citizens of Appomattox County. In 1982 and 1983, he was instrumental in scheduling and implementing three Personal Care Training Programs in Appomattox County.

In December, 1983, he spearheaded the organization of an Employment Needs Task Force in Appomattox County, which assesses and coordinates the supply of job market needs in the county.

Mr. Coleman also took the lead in transferring the old Pamplin Elementary School building, which was closed in June of 1982, to the Town of Pamplin, and in negotiating with private industry to rent it as a garment factory, a major boon to the town's economy.

In September, 1982, he won approval for employment of a part-time volunteer services coordinator to serve the Department of Social Services, and secured part of the old jail for use as a volunteer clothing closet. Total estimated value of the volunteer work which was done in the 1982-83 fiscal year is more than $42,000.

He also was instrumental in organizing and developing the Junior Volunteer organization for Appomattox County.

As president of the Pamplin Ruritan Club, Mr. Coleman was instrumental in planning and fund-raising for the Pamplin Community Center.

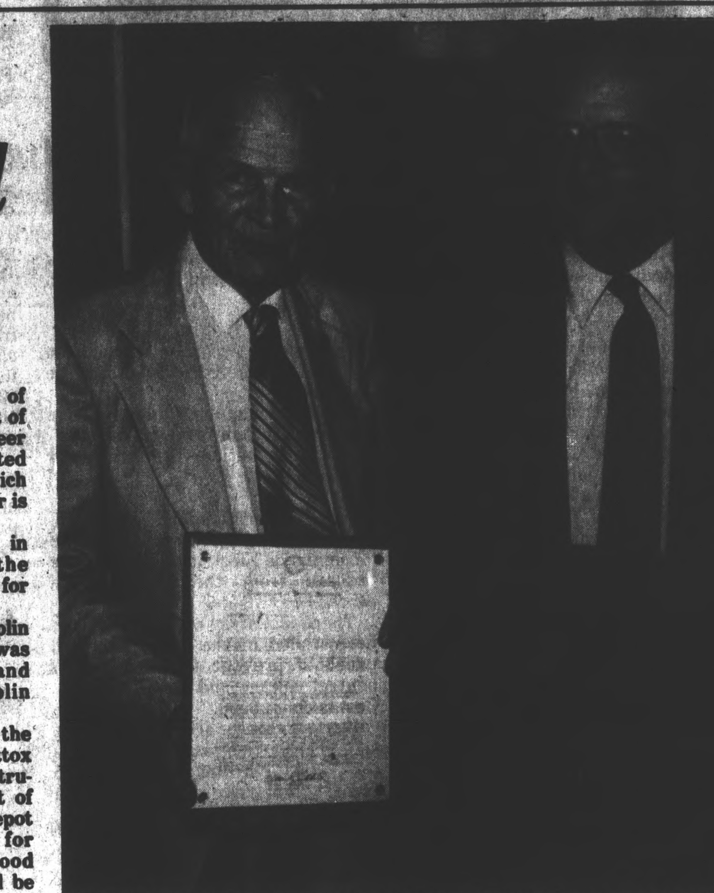
As organizer and chairman of the nutrition task force for Appomattox County, Mr. Coleman was instrumental in procuring use of part of the old Main Street railroad depot as a distribution point for government surplus of food products so that the food could be distributed to the needy on a monthly basis, rather than quarterly, as in other counties.

As a member of the Central Virginia Planning Commission, Mr. Coleman was instrumental in establishing zoning ordinances for the towns of Pamplin and Appomattox.

He has served as chairman of the Appomattox County Board of Supervisors, the county's Board of Public Welfare, and Central Virginia Commission on Aging.

He has also served as an executive board member of the Central Virginia Community Mental Health Services, vice chairman of the Appomattox County Planning Commission, a member of the Appomattox County Development Corporation and the county's Chamber of Commerce, and chairman of the Central Virginia Planning District Commission.

He has also served as a member of the Central Piedmont Employment Consortium's policy board, reporting member of the National Association of Regional Councils' Human Resources Policy Committee, chairman of the Appomattox County Recreation Committee, and president of the Pamplin Chapter of the American Association of Retired Persons.



HORACE W. COLEMAN, left, is pictured with William Lukhard, director of Virginia Department of Social Services, right, at Monday's ceremony honoring Coleman for his work with the Appomattox County Department of Social Services. (Photo by Bill Sherrod)

Planned Oct. 13-14

Railroad Festival time is approaching

Appomattox will celebrate it's 12th Annual Historic Appomattox Railroad Festival on October 13 and 14. The event commemorates the presentation of the Appomattox Norfolk and Western Depot to the Town of Appomattox as a historic landmark.

Activities begin at 10 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 13 with a parade. Grand Marshal will be Dr. Betty J. Diener. Secretary of Commerce and Resources, Commonwealth of Virginia, Office of the Governor. Head conductor will be Henry Fulcher of WFLO Radio Station in Farmville.

Ceremonies at the depot will include introduction of guests and awarding of parade trophies. Arts and crafts will be on sale as well as food at various concession stands sponsored by church and civic groups.

Music will begin at 12 noon with the "Bourbon Street Beats" followed by several local bands offering a variety of country, bluegrass and gospel music.

The 6th Annual Joe Sweeney 10 K Classic Footrace will get underway at 1 p.m.

Other activities will include helicopter rides, karate match, antique show, fireman's competition, contests, fireworks, and a street dance with music by "Westbound".

New features will include free rides on the Railroad Willie Express and a petting zoo for children, in addition to hot air balloon rides and a ride on the "Best of Charleston" steam engine.

Lions Club will meet Thursday

The Appomattox Lions Club will meet on Thursday evening, July 26 at 6:45 p.m. at the Country Fare Restaurant.

Dan Turner, program chairman will be in charge of the program for the evening.

Members are urged to attend.

Doctors celebrate 25 years

By FRANCES ABBITT

It was a hot day in July of 1959 that two young doctors, fresh out of medical school and having completed their internships, opened their office in Appomattox, hung out a shingle that read Dr. A.A. Fratrick and Dr. J.A. Mathews. They were proud, and rightfully so, they had made it! But it hadn't been easy.

Albert Andrew Fratrick was born in McAdoo, Pennsylvania, the son of a coal miner. The Fratrick family knew the meaning of hard work and a lot of hard work was ahead of Al Fratrick before he earned the title doctor.

"I knew what I wanted, and I busted my butt to get it," said Fratrick with a smile.

John Addison Mathews was born in Big Stone Gap, Virginia, moved to Roanoke at an early age, living there until the death of his father in 1932. Moving to Altavista, Mathews spent his youth there where his mother taught school to support the family.

"She was a good fourth grade teacher, but she wouldn't teach me! The other fourth grade teacher at the Altavista Elementary School had to teach me," commented Jack Mathews with a laugh.

"It was a hot day when we opened our office," said Fratrick. "I remember it quite well, it was unusually hot, maybe 102 degrees."

When Mathews and Fratrick opened their office, there was only one practicing physician in Appomattox, Dr. Clyde G. O'Brien. Dr. Stanley Boyce had left his practice of medicine in Appomattox approximately two months prior to their coming to Appomattox.

Mathews and Fratrick began practicing medicine in offices located in the rear of the building where the dentist office of Lawson and Fedison is now located. Elsie Lucado who had been working for Boyce went to work for the young doctors. For a time one nurse/office assistant was all that was needed.

"Things were really slow at first," said Mathews. "After we had been practicing medicine for about two months we had a few patients each day. I remember well one day we had two patients. One of them paid us three dollars. With the other one we didn't come out too well. We owed her four dollars!" said Mathews with a laugh. Seems an insurance claim had been overpaid.

The two doctors came to Appomattox with nothing but determination to make good and serve the community to the very best of their ability.

"One of the things that impressed both of us was the willingness of the people in Appomattox to help us," said Mathews.

"When we came here, I had no money," said Fratrick. "I was in debt up to my neck and had an old beat up 1951 Chevy that was falling apart."

The story was repeated with Mathews.

"I came to Appomattox with nothing," said Mathews. "We had to borrow money to move our things from Roanoke."

But there were people who cared, really cared. The Appomattox people were as determined to help these two young doctors get settled in their homes and office as the doctors were determined to meet the medical needs of the community.

"The firm of J.E. Jamerson and Sons Inc. was so good to us," said both Mathews and Fratrick. "Mr. Jamerson told us there one house on 460 east of Appomattox that was completed and one nearing completion. We were given the option of renting or buying without a down payment. We both made the choice to buy.

"We moved right in, no money down or anything,"both Mathews and Fratrick said. "We will never forget the kindness shown us by Mr. Jamerson."

"The Farmers National Bank has been good to us," said Mathews. "They didn't offer to lend us a given amount of dollars, they offered us whatever we needed to get our office opened and get our homes going."

[illegible] came was about ready to quit," said Fratrick. "Charlie Moses provided me with a good dependable station wagon to use."

"The late John Grinel was a good friend," said Mathews. "I needed a car and he showed me two good used cars. He let me take my pick. I asked him one he would choose and when he told me his choice that was the car I picked. It proved to be a good dependable car."

"The Appomattox Hardware was good to us," said Mathews. "They let us have a wahing machine, electric stove and refrigerator on time. If it had not been for friends like them, I don't know how we could have made it."

Both doctors give their wives credit for getting them through school. Hattie Grace Mathews taught school and Jenny Fratrick worked as a registered nurse.

"It was Hattie Grace and the G.I. bill that put me through school," said Mathew.

"Ginny was most supportive, she worked hard to keep me in school," said Fratrick. "We had practically no social life. For eight years I studied and worked and Jenny worked. We had no time or money for socializing, but I don't regret it."

Dr. C.G. O'Brien was another good friend to the young doctors when they first came to Appomattox.

"We both remember the kindness of Dr. O'Brien," said Mathews. "He had been the only doctor for a [illegible] to see us. He went around to various businesses and got canned goods and basic household needs and helped us stock our homes," he added.

In the fall after the two young doctors opened their office in July, a flu epidemic hit Appomattox.

"Things had been slow until the flu epidemic hit," said Mathews. "That 'put us on the map' so to speak," he added.

In February after the office was opened in July Mrs. Frances Rogers began work for the doctors. She has been with them ever since that time. In addition to Frances Rogers the staff today includes Sarah Summers, Lucy Harvey and Betty Nash on a part-time basis. Nurses are Elaine Bollinger, Marjorie Finch, and Shirley Clowdis.

Both Mathews and Fratrick are highly qualified to meet the medical needs of Appomattox and surrounding counties. In addition to their dedication, they have an impressive list of degrees and work experience acquired while they were in college, and since graduation.

Mathews finished high school in Altavista. Spent one year at Virginia Episcopal School. He attended VPI for four years studying pre-medicine. Following his graduation he taught school, high school math and science, for

[Continued on page 5]

A TOTAL OF 50 YEARS of practicing medicine in Appomattox County. It was July 1959 when Dr. J. A. Mathews, left and Dr. A. A. Fratrick, right, came to Appomattox to practice medicine. (Photo by Bill Sherrod)

'Depot' production set

Depot Dramatics will present "Godspell", the Broadway hit, on July 26, 27, and 28, at Appomattox County High School. "Godspell" is a high-engery, exciting musical based on the Gospel of Matthew. Songs include "Day by Day", "All for the Best", and "Oh Bless the Lord My Soul".

The Depot Dramatics production is being directed by Patrick Volturo, with musical direction by Renee Williams. Tommie Robinson, veteran Appomattox performer, has been cast in the lead role. The cast also includes Connie Fry Conner, Lin Volturo, David Harvey, Renee Williams, David Williams, Mary Paciocco, and Joyce Sweet.

Musicians for the show are Jeannie Adams, Bruce Sanders, and Brian Smith.

"Godspell" will be presented in a dinner theatre format with dinner served at 6:30 in the high school cafeteria. The meal will be catered by The Heritage Inn. The show will begin at 8:00 in the auditorium. Tickets for the dinner and show are $10.00. Anyone wishing only to see the show may do so for $3.00.

Depot Dramatics, the community theatre group of Appomattox was founded in 1980. Productions since that time have been "Bye, Bye Birdie," "Guys and Dolls," Damn Yankees," "Plaza Suite," and "I Do, I Do."

Father Darkleaf

By CALVIN ROBINSON

Nice to begin with good news. I have a sunflower in bloom in my garden. Not the tallest, nor shortest, and hope there will be many more, am glad to share the seed with the birds.

July and August are often dry months. Thus far, we've had ample rain. Given a little sunshine, things will grow and our good farmer friends will make a crop.

The Mid-Atlantic Region, National Park Service, invites amateur researchers, map makers, archaeologists, biologists, chemists, etc. to chip in with help in studying in more detail Park Service holdings. Included on the project list: The Clover Hill Tavern and the Sweeney property at Appomattox.

It was not good judgment. I spent two hours and twenty minutes pushing a lawnmower and then came in and cooled off in front of a fan. Result: a sniffling head cold. I am old enough to know better. At least, the lawn looks good.

Latest highway death count for Virginia this year, 507. Last year at this time the number killed on highways in The Old Dominion was 435. What is wrong?

The "Big Three" on Television seem to be: Politics, Sports and Reruns. A fair show will get more runs than ladies' hose.

Hurrah! Crape Myrtle is in bloom. Appomattox has its share and looks nice.

Sunday, July 22, was the 50th anniversary of the death of the notorious John Dillinger, in front of the Biograph Theatre, Chicago. I mention it because my late friend and fraternity brother, Sam McKee, of Richmond, was one of the FBI agents present on that occasion. Sam did not do the shooting, but saw history being made.

It happens. Appomattox friends, going and coming from the Beach, chanced to meet at The Virginia Diner, Waverly.

What percentage of Americans wear glasses? Was in a fairly large group recently and made a note that all but three wore glasses.

I lived, taught school and worked for a newspaper on Virginia's Eastern Shore, 1926-30. From a clipping I note that in 1920 Accomack and Northampton Counties were designated by Department of Agriculture as the two richest agricultural counties per capita in the United States; the gross sales that year being over $20,000,000 for potatoes, strawberries and onions.

Buckingham County 4-H'ers are in camp at Holiday Lake this week.

Thanks for reading and seeya around Appomattox, a growing town.

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